UNITED NATIONS **A**

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/50/233
31 July 1996

Fiftieth session
Agenda item 118

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/50/971)]

50/233. Joint Inspection Unit

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous relevant resolutions on the Joint Inspection Unit, in particular resolution 48/221 of 23 December 1993, and on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also paragraph 6 of section II of its resolution 48/218 A of 23 December 1993,

Having considered the annual reports of the Unit for the periods from 1 July 1993 to 30 June 1994 1/ and 1 July 1994 to 30 June 1995, 2/ and its related work programmes, 3/ as well as the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Unit, 4/

Reaffirming the statute of the Unit, the only independent system-wide inspection, evaluation and investigation body,

Stressing that the impact of the Unit on the cost-effectiveness of activities within the United Nations system is a shared responsibility of the Member States, the Unit and the secretariats of the participating organizations,

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/49/34).

2/ Ibid., Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/50/34).

3/ See A/49/111 and A/50/140.

4/ A/49/632 and A/50/784.

Noting with concern that some reports of the Unit have dealt with political matters,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the annual reports of the Joint Inspection Unit on its activities during the periods from 1 July 1993 to 30 June 1994 1/ and 1 July 1994 to 30 June 1995, 2/ of its work programmes for 1994, 1995 and 1995-1996 5/ and of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Unit; 4/

2. Endorses the observations and recommendations on the operation of the Unit contained in the annual report of the Unit for the period from 1 July 1994 to 30 June 1995, subject to the provisions of the present resolution, without prejudice to its consideration of the thematic reports of the Unit;

3. Decides to consider the appropriate periodicity of the Unit agenda item in the context of the review called for in its decision 47/454 of 23 December 1992;

4. Requests the Secretary-General, and invites the executive heads of organizations participating in the Unit, to take the necessary measures to ensure that the thematic reports of the Unit are listed under the appropriate substantive agenda items of the work programmes of the General Assembly, other pertinent organs and bodies of the United Nations and the appropriate legislative organs of the other participating organizations;

5. Takes note of the thematic reports of the Unit submitted to it for action, and decides to continue their consideration, where appropriate, under the relevant agenda items;

6. Requests the Unit to seek a more reader-friendly and uniform format of reports, taking into account new publishing technologies, which would include sections containing the objectives of the report, an executive summary, the conclusions drawn and, as appropriate, the action required to be taken by the organizations, in order to make reports as concise as possible and to comply with the existing page limit of thirty-two pages;

7. Also requests the Unit to report to it at its fifty-first session on measures taken to develop a set of internal standards and guidelines for inspection, evaluation and investigation;

8. Invites the legislative organs of other participating organizations to take concrete action on the recommendations of the Unit;

9. Reminds the Unit of its functions and powers as set out in chapter III of its statute, in particular article 5, paragraphs 1 to 3 and 5, and article 7, and requests the Unit to prepare its programme of work accordingly, bearing in mind the interests of participating organizations and the paramount need to ensure efficiency of services and proper use of funds;

10. Invites the Unit to continue to take full advantage of its system-wide competence in undertaking comparative analysis of trends and problems faced by various organizations and to propose harmonized, practical and concrete solutions;

11. Requests the executive heads of participating organizations to comply fully with the statutory reporting procedures for the consideration of

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5/ See A/49/111 and A/50/140 and Add.1.

the reports of the Unit, and requests the Unit to report to the competent legislative organs on compliance by the secretariats concerned;

12. Requests the Unit to continue to focus its reports on important priority items, identifying concrete managerial, administrative and programming questions aimed at providing the General Assembly and other legislative organs of participating organizations with practical and action-oriented recommendations on precisely defined issues;

13. Also requests the Unit to issue its reports well in advance of meetings of the legislative organs of participating organizations so that the reports can be thoroughly and effectively utilized by these organs;

14. Requests the Secretary-General and the other executive heads of participating organizations to assist the Unit fully, with timely provision of all information requested by it;

15. Decides to consider the issue of the mobility of the staff of the Unit in the context of the review called for in its decision 47/454;

16. Encourages the Unit to continue to take the necessary steps to achieve a punctual and systematic follow-up of its recommendations as approved by the legislative organs of participating organizations;

17. Urges Member States to pay special attention to the importance of the selection of qualified inspectors.

120th plenary meeting
7 June 1996